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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Next board meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2017 at the SSCY Centre Building**

## FROM PAT'S DESK

Welcome 2017! Happy New Year! Thank you to all of our families for the lovely cards treats and holiday wishes. Your kind words and thoughtfulness is much appreciated! Thank you to those who donated winter wear, non perishable food and other items to our hampers. We were able to provide a holiday hamper to 17 families between both locations. Thank you for your support in this endeavour.

New Year means new goals for this year and we have started by outlining our wishes and dreams for both locations. At our last educators meeting we took some time to discuss and reflect our hopes and dreams for both locations. At February's board of directors meeting we will review these and come up with a strategic plan to accomplish some of these goals.

Your feedback is very important to us. Please keep your eyes out for a survey monkey questionnaire. We want to know your thoughts about how we were doing and this will also help us to achieve the best quality care and programming we can offer your children. Please take the few minutes to fill out the short survey which should be posted over the next few weeks.

Thank you!

## DETAILS FROM JEAN

Welcome 2017! We hope everyone enjoyed the winter break. At the school site we enjoyed our time outdoors during the first week while the weather was beautiful. The second week we were indoors as the temperature was too cold. We had a PJ day, movies, danced and sang, and various other activities in the classrooms we use.

On January 17 we held our Family Fun Night of dodge ball games! It was such a fun event! We want to thank all the families that joined in the fun as well as parents who came out to watch! We heard from educators, children and parents and we are looking forward to planning another event so stay tuned!

What's new at the centre? We have been using learning how to use a new program on iPads. We have been using TADPOLES app. It has been allowing us to check in/out your children in our care, what classrooms/areas they are in, and lately we've learned how to better communicate with our families by being able to send you reports of your child's day and send notes or important messages immediately. These reports and notes have been sent via email.

### Few updates:

Updated parent manuals and code of conduct brochures were put in mailboxes over winter break. If you didn't receive one, please let us know and we will get you a copy.

Billing periods schedule has been posted. Please remember to fees are due first day of billing period and payment can be made via cheque or money order. If you've signed up for EFT's the dates of withdrawals are posted on the schedule.

Invoices are typically sent out one week before the new billing period begins.

**Next in-service day is Friday, February 3.**

**-Jean Dela Cruz**  
**Assistant Director**  
[jdelacruz@robertsoneep.ca](mailto:jdelacruz@robertsoneep.ca)

## SCHOOL AGE NEWS

Happy new year from everyone at REEP!

Entering my 13<sup>th</sup> year with the program, each year has proven to be exciting, rewarding, and educational. I love connecting with the parents and children, and value my role as an educator, and I believe in our philosophy of "Learning and Growing Together".

January has proven to be a very busy and fulfilling month. Our program rang in the New Year with many Invitations to Play, organized gym games, and outdoor activities when weather permits.

This month we have a new focus and spin on invitations. Upon entering the MPR in the morning the children are greeted by educators, and then proceed to different areas of the room to engage in "Mind Games". The children have really embraced the invitations that have been offered, and some cannot wait to see what is next!

- Marilyn Corbitt

During our time at Andrew Mynarski over the summer, our daily routine consisted of tending the tomato garden that was on site! Using the tomatoes from the garden, we were able to create delicious jam that the children enjoyed.

*"Young children deserve to have the fullest experiences possible to meet up with their lively minds!"*

-Deb Curtis

## Budget Berry Jam

### Ingredients

- 4 Cups of tomato pulp
- 4 Cups of white sugar
- 2 Packages of Jell-O mix, any flavour

### Directions:

1. In a large saucepan over medium-heat, combine tomato pulp and sugar; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
2. Remove from the heat and stir in the gelatin mix. Stir until the gelatin is completely dissolved. Pour into hot sterilized jars and seal. When jars are cool, put in freezer.

## KINDER CORNER

Hello everyone!

During the month of January the educators in the Kinder/Nursery program have had a lot of fun observing the children during their free play time. After winter break we could not figure out a common interest amongst the group, so we decided to develop a hibernation curriculum. The children really seemed to enjoy learning about hibernating, migrating, and adapting. We made bear caves out of boxes; we classified animal's winter preferences on a chart, and we learned the different places that animals may hibernate!

Over the past 2 weeks we have noticed that the children are talking a lot about outer space, so we are in the middle of a space curriculum. So far we have painted rocket ships, learned fun new poems, make telescopes, made rocket ships out of loose parts and read a number of books about space! We are all very excited to see where the children's interest takes us next!

- Ms. Lindsay

## EDUCATORS NEWS

We are excited to be a part of the Deb Curtis Co-hort! Deb Curtis is a world-renown mentor in the Early Childhood education field. Our centre was chosen to be a part of her work-shop series! We are proud to announce that our very own Lindsay Mamona will be participating in this workshop as they tour various childcare centres!

In preparation for relicensing, our last staff meeting focused on our policies and procedures in case of all types of emergencies.

We also discussed our hopes and dreams for both our locations.



Robertson staff holiday party



Parent dodgeball night



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BABIES!

### CHILDREN:

Candice, Rome, Erik, Gabby, Eve, Evan, Cyrus, Ava, Myka, Kylie, Reid, Anne

### STAFF:

Marilyn, Myla, Amy, Jenette, and Jean!

## À la Suzanne

### Peach and Blueberry Crisp

#### Ingredients

- 3 cups of fresh or frozen peaches, thawed
- 1 cup of fresh or frozen blueberries, thawed
- 2 tbsp. sugar
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg
- 2 tbsp uncooked rolled oats
- 2 tbsp. Rise Krispie Cereal
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp margarine, melted
- 1/8 tsp cinnamon

Heat oven to 375 F

1. Combine peaches and blueberries in an 8-inch round baking dish
2. Combine sugar and nutmeg, then sprinkle over fruit
3. Combine oats, rice cereal, flour, brown sugar, margarine, and cinnamon in a small bowl. Sprinkle over fruit.
4. Bake, uncovered, for 35 – 40 minutes

Enjoy~

-Suzanne Laroque

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at the SSCY Centre Building**. Dinner and child care will be provided.

Our BOD meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month. Locations will vary.

## REMINDER

Reminder that your child will be going outside daily so please ensure your child is dressed for the weather. **PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS.** Also, please remember to have a change of labeled clothes for your child in case of accidents.

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**Learning and Growing Together.**